

Amendments to the Claims:

Entry of the following amendments to place the claims into condition for allowance is respectfully requested.

1. (currently amended) A sealing arrangement for sealing a gap between two components which can move rotationally with respect to one another about a common axis of rotation, having a brush seal which is arranged fixedly in the first component of the two components and interacts with a sealing surface of the second component, wherein the sealing surface is a surface of a shaft end of the second component which is conical in form, with the first component being axially displaceable and adjustable with respect to the second component, the first component being disposed axially adjacent to the second component shaft end, and means for axial displacement and adjustment being provided between the first component and a casing surrounding the first component.

2. (canceled)

3. (currently amended) The sealing arrangement as claimed in claim 1, wherein the means for axial displacement and adjustment comprise a sliding seat, an adjustment nut which is fitted into the casing and a displacement screw thread cut into the first component.

4. (previously presented) The sealing arrangement as claimed in claim 1, wherein the axial displacement is controlled by at least one threaded connection between one of the components and a casing which receives said component.

5. (previously presented) The sealing arrangement as claimed in claim 1, wherein the axial displacement is controlled by at least one of a mechanical and a hydraulic adjuster.

6. (withdrawn) A method of sealing a gap between two components which are rotatable relative to one another about a common axis of rotation, comprising the steps of:

providing a brush seal fixed to a first one of the two components, wherein the brush inner diameter is between a minimum diameter and a maximum diameter of a conical portion of a second one of the components; and

axially adjusting the first component along the common axis of rotation until a distance between the inner diameter of the brush seal and the conical portion of the second component is reduced to a desired distance.